

168th Infantry Photo | Inaugural Gown Doll Display Case



168th Infantry Photo | Inaugural Gown Doll Display Case

Hanging on the east side of the south corridor is one of the world's largest reproduction photographs of the time. The photograph was taken by W. T. Showers of the 168th Infantry. It measures 26 feet long and 6 feet high and pictures Iowa soldiers of the 42nd Rainbow Division, 168th Infantry, after the division's return from France in 1919.

A collection of dolls depicting Iowa's first ladies in their inaugural gowns is displayed near the Governor's Office. The idea for the dolls was suggested by Governor Robert Ray's wife, First Lady Billie Ray, as a project to celebrate America's bicentennial in 1976. The dolls are porcelain and the faces are created from a profile of Mrs. Ray.